

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 303

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Bethany McKenzie Copperidge, 2005 Salutatorian of Ridgeway High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Bethany McKenzie Copperidge is one such exceptional student who was recently named Salutatorian of the 2005 graduating class at Ridgeway High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Bethany McKenzie Copperidge has achieved outstanding academic success and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in her remarkable high school career, Bethany Copperidge has earned an exemplary 5.174 grade point average while participating in numerous clubs and activities including NAACP, Youth United Way, Teen Appeal, Memphis Challenge, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, Bridge Builders, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Varsity and Junior Varsity basketball teams and the Latin Club; and

WHEREAS, a delegate to Volunteer Girls' State and a recognized leader among her peers, Ms. Copperidge was President of both C.A.T.C.H. Club and Co-Vice, as well as Captain of the Freshman Girls' Basketball team. She also served as a Youth Day Committee Member at the New Olivet Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Bethany Copperidge won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Memphis and Shelby County Science Fair in 2003 and 2004 and won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the NAACP ACT-SO Competition in 2004 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in 2003; and

WHEREAS, she has received the AP American Government Award, the Honors Pre-Calculus Award, the William H. Sweet Award, the President's Award and was selected Most Intellectual and Highest G.P.A. in 2001; and

WHEREAS, a very capable young lady who has performed volunteer work for the Ronald McDonald House, Bethany has served as a summer intern for FedEx Express and currently works part-time for W.G. Yates Construction as an office assistant; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Copperidge's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for her future success; she plans to attend Vanderbilt University in the fall to pursue a major in Biology; and

WHEREAS, Bethany's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for her parents, Denise and Leroy Copperidge, her school, and her community; and

WHEREAS, Bethany McKenzie Copperidge's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the 2005 Ridgeway High School Salutatorian, Bethany McKenzie Copperidge, on her impressive academic achievement and extend to her our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.